



Christ Church Cathedral School

Friday 21st April 2023

Dear Parents,

I spoke to the pupils on their return to school this week about an event which happened on the morning of the last Coronation 70 years ago. On the morning of the late Queen's Coronation on 2nd June 1953, another piece of news was announced to the crowds who were expectantly waiting to see their new Queen on the streets of London. The news, which produced a huge cheer, was that Mount Everest had been summited for the first time by one of the new Queen's subjects, Edmund Hillary, a New Zealand beekeeper. He had done so alongside Tenzing Norgay, a native of Nepal, the mountainous country in which Everest lies. Their achievement was seen as a tremendous triumph and a symbol of hope for the new era which was about to be inaugurated with the crowning of the young Queen.

I spoke about the magnetism of mountains. When walking in the Lake District, there is something very satisfying about the climbing of mountains and the challenges they present. I encouraged the pupils to take on challenges, many of which they could look forward to this term. By taking on challenges they would inevitably achieve more than they thought possible.

I also commended to the pupils the journey that was involved in climbing a mountain, the thousands of small steps which add up to the magnificent achievement. When climbing mountains, the stops along the way, the picnic by the waterfall, the views around the corner, the conversation with one's companions, all of this is as important as the triumph itself and by taking on challenges we achieve so much more than the accomplishment of the challenge – indeed not all challenges would be met but they would still have been worth attempting. I hope, therefore, that this term your children will be busy trying new things! At the first Assembly of term, for instance, staff mentioned that there would be a production of a Midsummer Night's Dream, a pupil newspaper, a reading challenge and an inter-house French competition.

Among other events to look forward to this term is the Inter-House Music Competition on Friday 19th May at 1.30 pm in the Cathedral. This will be a feast of musical talent. Given that for the first time since Ms Biddell's time in the School, last term - quite remarkably - everyone taking music exams gained a Merit or Distinction, I suspect the standard this year will be particularly high. The individual performances will be followed by the House Singing Competition, in which each House sings a song together. Do please try to attend this event as it will be an unforgettable occasion. In the early afternoon of Friday 5th May we will be hosting a 'Picnic in the Park' to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III the following day. Families will be encouraged to bring a picnic to Merton Field and listen to music performed by the pupils. On Saturday 24th June, in the morning, we have our whole school Sports Day, another wonderful event in which every child in the School takes part. This is the culmination of the School's sporting calendar. Finally, at the end of term we have our Speech Days in the Cathedral. Nursery and Pre-Prep Speech Day is on the afternoon of Thursday 6th July and then our Prep School Speech Day on Friday 7th. We hope you will all come to these celebrations of the year's achievements and we look forward to seeing you there.

When talking to the pupils about the climbing of Everest, I mentioned that news of the triumph was delivered to the world in a colourful way. Today, of course, Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing would have taken selfies and texted them to their teams down at Basecamp. In those far-off days such a thing was not possible, of course. Instead, when they arrived back at Basecamp, a young reporter from the Times, who had accompanied the mountaineers as far as Basecamp, gave a coded message to a runner who delivered it to the closest telegram office. The message said: "Snow Conditions Bad. Stop. Advanced Base Abandoned Yesterday. Stop. Awaiting Improvement. Stop. All Well." This was code for "The mountain has been summited" by Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing. None of the other papers who were trying to get the news home would have been able to glean the information from this message, of course, and it was Morris's determination to be close to the action and to get the news back to London without it being intercepted, which meant that he was responsible for ensuring the news reached London in time for the Coronation. James Morris, who later became Jan Morris, went on to be one of the most celebrated writers about place of our era, most famously writing unsurpassed accounts of two of the world's most beautiful cities, Venice and Oxford. As I told the boys, James Morris was educated at Christ Church Cathedral School. Perhaps they too, by taking on challenges, will play a significant part in history!

Mr Murray
Headmaster

Trinity 2023

Monday 24th - Sunday 30th April

MONDAY 24 4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Reception - Form 2) (Merton Field)
TUESDAY 25 8.00 10.30 - 3.00 4.00 - 5.00	<i>Mark the Evangelist</i> PC: Rehearsals begin Bikeability Level 3 After School Tennis Club (Reception - Form 2) (WWH)
WEDNESDAY 26 9.00 - 10.25 10.30 - 3.00 11.25 12.30 2.30 3.30 - 4.30 4.00 - 5.00	Forms 3 & 4 Swimming Form 8 French CE Revision listening and speaking skills Levels 3 - 5 Bikeability Level 3 UKMT Junior Maths Challenge U9 & U11 Football Tournament (Windrush Valley School) Senior Tennis v Cranford House (Away) After School Chess Club (Form 2) After School Cricket Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
THURSDAY 27 4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
FRIDAY 28 8.30 4.00 - 5.00	Cathedral Assembly, speaker The Reverend Canon Sally Welch, Christ Church Cathedral After School Cricket Club (Reception - Form 2) (Merton Field)
SATURDAY 29	
SUNDAY 30 12.30 5.30	<i>The Third Sunday after Easter</i> <i>University Second Week</i> C: Home after Sunday Eucharist PC: First Service

CC: IN

Parent Survey

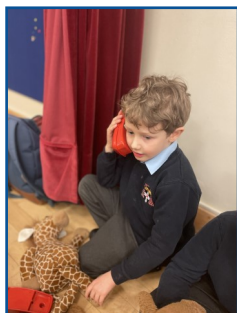
Mr Murray and the Senior Management Team are keen to find out parents' opinions about our school, so we can plan for the future. Therefore, we would be really grateful if you would answer the following questions: **1.** What do you value most about Christ Church Cathedral School? **2.** How would you like to see the school develop over the next five years?

We have deliberately kept the questions open rather than doing a tick-box questionnaire because we would like to listen to your full thoughts rather than forcing you to answer specific questions. Of course, if you have something you would like to tell us which is not covered by these two questions, please feel free to include it. AF

You can respond either by email to me: fairhurst.a@cccs.org.uk or anonymously using the survey link: <https://freeonlinesurveys.com/s/EjWp7ijA>.

Teddy Bear Hospital

On Wednesday, Pre-Prep children were visited by Oxford University students who turned our Hall into a Teddy Bear Hospital. The children were taught to dial 999, in case of a medical emergency, and what part each of our main internal organs plays, e.g. our liver. Using stethoscopes, we had an opportunity to listen to each other's hearts and later handled some important objects from a medical case: a blood pressure meter, a thermometer and a spacer for an asthma inhaler. EF



Oxford Town and Gown

To raise money for Muscular Dystrophy and to sponsor the Christ Church Cathedral school runners (Miss Farmer Mrs Green, Madame Loyer and Mrs Merriman) please visit:

[SportsGiving - Sponsor Christ Church Cathedral School in Oxford Town and Gown 2023](#)

Clubs News



On Thursday afternoon, the newly formed 'Making the Most of Oxford Club' walked across Christ Church Meadow to the Roger Bannister running track on the Iffley Road.

After a brief talk on who Roger was and what he did, the boys had a run on the track.

Although some were very fast runners none quite hit the four minute mile pace! KS

D.T. Corner

- Evolution of Transport Box by Thomas Pattinson, showing transport from horse and carriage to a VW Transporter.
- Mechanical Basketball Hoop by Kaspar Kriaucionis.



Lost Property

A pair of men's navy blue gloves has been misplaced. Last seen in the Walton Hall yesterday.

Please bring the gloves to the office, if spotted! Thank you. LK

There is a large box on the landing near to Form 2 containing items of Lost Property.

London Marathon

Mr Bagnall, our D.T. Teacher, is attempting to run the London Marathon on 23rd April, supporting two charities: 13 Rivers Trust and Battersea Cats and Dogs Home.

If any of our parents would like to sponsor Mr Bagnall please email: bagnall.c@cccs.org.uk.

Thank you.



The Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire and the Chapter of Christ Church
invite you to a Service of Celebration for Oxfordshire to mark

His Majesty The King's Coronation

at 6pm on Friday, 5 May 2023

Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford

As numbers are limited, we would be grateful if you could please let us know if you are able to attend by noon on Thursday, 27 April
The Cathedral doors will open at 5.30pm
Please be seated by 5.50pm

House Music Competition 2023

I have been speaking to boys about next term's big musical project: the House Music Competition. Instrumental auditions will begin next week and are open to any boys in Forms 3 to 8.

I hope that boys might have started choosing and preparing their audition pieces, with the following guidelines in mind:

Juniors (Forms 3 - 4) - instrumental piece no longer than 3 minutes

Intermediates (Forms 5 - 6) - instrumental piece no longer than 4 minutes

Seniors (Forms 7 - 8) - instrumental piece no longer than 5 minutes

There will also be House songs to learn from April onwards, and parents are warmly invited to the Final in the Cathedral at 1.30 pm on Friday 19th May. It's always an exciting event, so it would be excellent to see lots of you there. If you can't join us in the afternoon, the competition will be professionally live-streamed and available to watch afterwards too.

Please encourage your sons to start practising. SB

Meet and Greet - Lucy Channer: Marketing and Admin Assistant, CCCS

What did you want to be when you grew up and what are you doing now? A detective, like Sherlock Holmes. I am drawn to his amazing observational skills and his determination to solve each case, whatever the odds. I now work in marketing so quite different!

If you could travel anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go and why? Tuvalu island. Its a small island in the Pacific near Hawaii, with very few visitors. The weather is hot all year round, the diet is simple and the best way to travel around the island is by motorbike!

Who is your idol? Winston Churchill is one of my many idols. I admire his writing and speaking - one of his most famous quotes is: "Never, never, never give up."

Favourite city or town and in which season? The Catskills in Autumn. A simple pastime, like trying to catch falling golden leaves is a magical experience.

One thing you would change in the world if you could? Several come to mind. Right now, stop poor treatment of animals.

Is there a family trait/habit that you have? We all have very expressive facial expressions. Our faces are an open book in expressing how we feel in the given moment.

Favourite Book? I recently read Atonement by Ian McEwan. It's the story of how three peoples' lives radically altered due to the lie of a teenager girl.

If you could start something new (hobby/interest or sport) and were not limited with time/age/money, what would it be? I'd like to try and teach my body to tolerate very cold water. I want to test Wim Hof's theory that the shock of dousing the body in cold water has healing powers.

Any advice on how you relax at the weekend? Disconnect from technology, eat home cooked food, spend time with friends and family.

You probably use your observation skills in marketing more than you realise, communication commands you to notice what needs doing, saying or thinking and of course there's nothing quite like a gut feeling, which rarely lets you down. Catskills, wow! So beautiful, and is a well known area for leaf peepers, which is such a great description for people who just like to see Autumnal foliage in all its beauty. It's difficult to hide what you are thinking when your face says it all, I can relate. The face speaks before the words are released. I admire your bravery in the Wim Hof's cold water way, focusing just on the here and now, all or nothing, sitting at a warm desk with your feet in a bucket of ice water seems worse than climbing into that human sized ice bucket and really embracing it, I am sure your facial expressions would let us all know how it was going. Thanks Lucy!

Have a lovely weekend.

Kathryn
PA